

Veterinary Services Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Please note: This is a tool to help applicants with some of the more frequently asked questions. It is not a substitute for reading and carefully following all of the instructions in the Request for Applications (RFA) and the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide. In fact, many of these questions will not make sense unless you have read the Request for Applications and/or the NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide first. You can download the RFA from the “View RFA” link at the NIFA Funding Opportunity page at <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/veterinary-services-grant-program-vsgp> and read more about the Veterinary Services Grant Program (VSGP) at www.nifa.usda.gov/vsgp.

Education, Extension and Training Projects

1. **Would testing various teaching modalities be considered an appropriate project?** VSGP does not fund research. Exploring different information delivery modalities is allowed and encouraged in order to more effectively reach the intended audience. The evaluation plan could compare the impacts of the different modalities that may inform future projects or standard teaching practices. However, the principal goal of the work should be effective delivery of useful information to trainees, rather than the study of different models of teaching.
2. **Can one institution submit multiple proposals?** Yes, but applicants are advised to consider their capacity to submit more than one strong proposal. It's usually better to concentrate on a single, well-developed idea.
3. **Can a person be listed on multiple proposals?** Yes, but care must be taken when describing the current and pending support to ensure that total commitment of that person to the proposed projects does not exceed 100%.
4. **How much can a qualified entity request for indirect costs?** Indirect costs are limited to 30 percent of the total Federal funds provided (or 42.857 percent of total direct costs). Therefore, when preparing budgets, requests for the recovery of indirect costs should be limited to the lesser of the institution's official negotiated indirect cost rate or 30 percent of total Federal funds awarded. If the institution/organization does not have a negotiated indirect cost rate, a new rate can be negotiated or the default minimum rate of 10% of the modified total direct costs can be used. NOTE: any negotiated rates, must be negotiated prior to the application.